

CPC Meeting – November 12, 2014
7:30 pm
The Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station

The Wellesley Community Preservation Committee met at 7:30 pm in the Kingsbury Room of the Wellesley Police Station.

Present were the following CPC members: Barbara McMahon (Chair), Allan Port (Vice Chair), Joan Gaughan, Tad Heuer, Susan Troy. CPC Assistant Nicole Ng was also present.

Also present was Kathleen Fahey, Curator from the Wellesley Historical Society.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Citizen Speak

No citizens were present or chose to speak.

Wellesley Historical Society request for historical preservation

Kathleen Fahey, Curator from the Wellesley Historical Society, presented the request for a grant of \$6,200.00 from CPC. The funding will be used to process and preserve the Margaret Urann Collection so it may be easily accessed by the public and researchers. Margaret Urann was a writer and unofficial recorder of Wellesley history, especially in the areas of commerce and buildings.

A question was asked to clarify what processing is. Ms. Fahey explained that processing means a professional archivist would take a jumble of documents and organize them by categories and dates. The documents will be sorted and preserved in folders and protective sleeves. Finding aids and folder lists will be created to enable researchers and the general public to find the information. This is especially important to academic researchers who need to be able to cite the source of their information.

Ms. McMahon asked about the availability of professional archivists. Ms. Fahey responded that although there is no in-house archivist at the Society, they are easy to hire.

Subsequent discussion ensued regarding other similar collections (about 60 in total, half processed) held by the Society. Ms. Fahey explained that she has a prioritization matrix of which collection should be processed first. The Urann Collection was deemed a high priority because of its potential for use and because many newspaper clippings are in danger of deterioration.

Mr. Port requested an update on 335 Washington Street, future home of the Historical Society. Ms. Fahey reported that an architect has been hired and better handicap access is

being planned for the bathrooms and the space in general. Because archives are heavy, they must be stored in the basement, not upper floors. Part of the planning includes making HVAC and heating in the basement safe for the archives.

In order for CPC to proceed with the funding request, Mr. Port requested that Ms. Fahey send any documents, prioritization matrix, and data on requests to use the collection, etc. to show:

1. how the Collection will be accessible to the public, and
2. how the Collection is relevant to Wellesley.
3. At the suggestion of Ms. Gaughn, the Historical Commission will review the application to ensure that the Collection is relevant to Wellesley.

Finally, Ms. Fahey asked about the timeline of the request. Ms. McMahon and Mr. Port explained that the request will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting, usually in April, and if approved, funding is released by July. However, if an archivist is ready, funds could be released earlier after conclusion of Town Meeting but language must be put in the motion presented to Town. The CPC long form may not be necessary if the 3 points above are met.

Ms. Fahey leaves at 8:15.

Project Updates:

- **900 Worcester**
No news.
- **North 40**
No news.
- **Fuller Brook**
There will a full update next month by the Chair of the Fuller Brook Park Coordinating Committee. Current work includes ridding of old culverts, installing new pipes, drainage ditches, drywells, replacing bridges and improving handicap accessibility section by section.

Future Projects:

There are currently no specific projects in the pipeline. Some ideas that were put forth include:

- Mr. Heuer suggested looking into historical homes that could be restored and converted into affordable housing and will provide some examples.

- NRC will be requesting funding for more pond dredging. There are 3 ponds that will need dredging: State Street, Abbott, and Longfellow. Possibly one pond per year.
- There might be requests from the Park and Recreation for more playing fields, including adding lockers and bathrooms and lighting at certain fields /venues.
- Add CPC signage where funding was used (such as Fuller Brook) to raise visibility and awareness of CPC.

CPC Financial Plan 6/30/2013-6/30/2020

A community was left off the State's Community Preservation Trust Fund distribution so each distribution will need to be reevaluated.

The State match is 31.4percent which translates to \$319.000 for Wellesley. This amount will be in CPC account on 11/16/2014, and is in the revised plan, \$200,000 less than former version.

Money from 900 Worcester and Morse's Pond should be back in CPC account already. Need to follow up on money remaining from Perrin Playground project.

Minutes and Adjourn

The Chair made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 22 meeting. Mr. Port seconded the motion. After a vote, the motion carried unanimously, with minor changes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 with a motion to adjourn by Mr. Port and seconded by the Chair. The vote was unanimous.